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## **Press Release: Government of Nunavut Public Service Workers Call for Fair Deal with Launch of Here for Nunavut Campaign**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 6, 2021 – Iqaluit, NU** - A new campaign launched by the Nunavut Employees Union (NEU) which represents more than 4,000 public service workers working for the Government of Nunavut (GN) calls on the Territory's largest employer to support its workers by providing stable jobs, fair wages and a northern allowance that keeps up with rising costs.

The pandemic has made things harder on everyone, and GN employees haven't received an increase in pay since October 2017, despite unprecedented increases to cost of living and inflation. On top of this, [the GN refuses to provide paid domestic violence leave to employees](#). Efforts to reach a fair deal have been unsuccessful as the employer has refused to bargain in good faith.

"As the Territory's largest employer, it's time for the Government of Nunavut to support workers by providing stable jobs, fair wages and a northern allowance that keeps up with rising costs," said Jason Rochon, President of the NEU. "Public service workers have always been here for Nunavut, and never wavered throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. Now it's time for the government to be there for them."

Nunavut residents can join the fight for a fair deal at [herefornunavut.ca](http://herefornunavut.ca) by sending their Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) a message calling on the GN to step up for employees and by sharing the campaign on social media.

### **Background:**

The Collective Agreement with the GN expired in September 2018. The NEU [filed a complaint in court in November 2019](#) asserting that the GN has not lived up to its legal and moral obligation to bargain in good faith, but the case has not yet been heard due to court backlogs. The last time NEU met with the employer was in June 2020. [The NEU offered to refer all outstanding issues to arbitration for resolution by a neutral third party](#), which the GN rejected.

The [Nunavut Employees Union](#) (NEU) is a component union of the [Public Service Alliance of Canada](#) (PSAC) representing more than 5,000 workers across the territory, including more than 4,000 employees working for the Government of Nunavut. PSAC is one of Canada's largest unions with more than 215,000 members across Canada.

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